# **LITHUANIA**



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#### General

Lithuania is located in Eastern Europe, bordering the Baltic Sea between Latvia and Russia.

The climate is maritime, with wet, moderate winters and summers.

The terrain is composed of fertile lowlands, with many scattered small lakes.

## **Buoyage System**

The IALA Buoyage System (Region A) is in effect. See Chart No. 1 for further IALA Buoyage System information.

### Currency

The official unit of currency is the Lithuanian litas, consisting of 100 centas.

#### Government

The government is an independent, constitutional republic comprised of 44 regions and 11 municipalities.

The capital is Vilnius.

## **Holidays**

Lithuanian Independence Day is observed February 16.

#### **Industries**

The main industries include the manufacture of machine tools, electric motors, televisions, refrigerators and freezers, petroleum refining, amber mining, and shipbuilding.

Almost a fifth of the population is engaged in agriculture, raising dairy cattle and other livestock, and growing such crops as sugar, grain, and potatoes.

## Languages

Lithuanian is the official language. Polish and Russian are also spoken.

## **Pilotage**

Pilotage is compulsory for entering and leaving all Lithuanian ports. Generally, pilots should be ordered through the local agent 12 hours in advance and confirmed 4 hours prior to arrival. Vessels requiring a deep-sea pilot in the Baltic Sea should send a request to Klaipeda (54°44'N., 21°06'E.).

## Regulations

Vessels should send their ETA to the local agent 12 days, 96 hours, and 12 hours in advance. Oil, gas, and chemical tankers should send their ETA 14 days, 72 hours, and 12 hours in advance.

#### Time Zone

The Time Zone description is ALPHA (-1).

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# U.S. Embassy

The U.S. Embassy is situated at Akmenu 6, 2600 Vilnius. The mailing address is American Embassy, Vilnius, PSC 78, Box V, APO AE 09723.